

Liquor Head Offers Red Cross \$5,000 For Evidence Against Alcohol

President of New York
Dealers Wants Facts Rather
Than Assertions

Anti-Saloon Leader
Denounces Poison

Further Prohibition Comment
Is Made by and About
Physicians

Charges and counter charges have been issued daily from the two camps developed by spirituous liquor. On the twelfth day of the battle some new tactics may be observed in the "wet" ranks.

Goaded on by the denunciation of liquor by the friends of prohibition, the president of the New York State Liquor Dealers Association has issued a challenge. From his office at 27 William Street, Henry J. Kaltenbach writes:

"I now offer to pay to the Red Cross the sum of \$5,000 on the production of the official records, such as would be considered evidence in a court of law, to prove that the use of alcoholic beverages is the chief factor in causing insanity, crime, poverty and disease."

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The statement by Bertha Mapes in The Tribune that "it has long since been conceded that the use of alcohol has been the chief factor in causing insanity, crime, poverty and disease" is a fair sample of the grossly exaggerated or wholly unfounded assertions that have been responsible for the growth of the prohibition movement.

Conceded by whom? Certainly not by any one who is familiar with the facts. There is absolutely nothing in the records of our courts, public and private charities, hospitals and insane asylums to justify the statement I have quoted; but, on the contrary, abundant proof that it is a deliberate untruth, manufactured by the advocates of prohibition laws and circulated by them for the purpose of forcing their narrow views upon the public.

I have repeatedly challenged the parties circulating the unsupported statements repeated by your correspondent to furnish facts of official record to substantiate their claims, but they have always failed to submit them, for the very good reason that there are none.

If the statement in question were true I would promptly retire from my present business, as no right thinking person would be identified with an industry causing so much injury to mankind. With a view to pinning the prohibition advocates down to facts, instead of sweeping assertions, I now offer to pay to the Red Cross the sum of \$5,000 on the production of official records, such as would be considered evidence in a court of law, to prove that the use of alcoholic beverages is the chief factor in causing insanity, crime, poverty and disease.

That statement is either true or it is not true. I know that it is untrue. I challenge those who believe it to be true to produce their proofs.

Yours very truly,
HENRY J. KALTENBACH,
President.

Real Basis for Fight
Is That Alcohol Is Poison

Let the restraining hand of the government lay hold of alcohol, as it does of other poisons. For alcohol is a poison, and that is the real issue for the prohibition movement. The following statement of the case against liquor is from Samuel Wilson, assistant superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of New Jersey and editor of "The American Issue."

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: I do not see that the discussion of the medical value of alcohol has anything whatever to do with the question of prohibition as it is now before the American people, as neither the suggested Constitutional amendment nor any of the state legislation prohibits the medical use of alcohol.

The question is simply a part of the world-wide agitation against the indiscriminate sale and use of habit-forming drugs, and I think none of the distinguished physicians who have expressed themselves will dispute the fact that alcohol is a habit-forming drug. China has prohibited the indiscriminate manufacture, sale and use of the drug opium; the Federal government and the states of the American Union have adopted very drastic prohibitory laws against the indiscriminate sale and use of dangerous narcotics, such as opium, cocaine and other habit-forming drugs. These laws provide that such drugs cannot be sold, except upon the prescription of an educated and licensed physician, or dispensed, except by an educated and licensed pharmacist.

The prohibitionist insists that the drug alcohol should be placed in the same class, and its sale surrounded with the same restrictions as other narcotic poisons. No well-informed physician will question the fact that alcohol is a dangerous, habit-forming drug, as defined by Sir Lauder Brunton in his classical work on materia medica, who says:

"Alcohol is a nerve cell paralyzant, paralyzing the nerve cells in the inverse order of their development."

Every reason that can be advanced for the restraining hand of government for opium and cocaine, because they are habit-forming drugs, applies with equal or even greater force to the drug alcohol.

The "dope fiend" injures himself in body and mind, whereas the alcoholic, in addition to his own personal ills, inflicts vast injury upon society, as is abundantly proved by the records of courts and eleemosynary institutions. The drug addict can get his supplies only through illegitimate and underground channels; but the fact that there is an illicit traffic in habit-forming drugs is not considered to be a reason for removing the restrictions and permitting the open sale of the drug to all comers. By the same token the prohibitionist claims that it is unreasonable for government to authorize the indiscriminate sale of the drug alcohol, in its various dilutions, as a beverage by ignorant and often brutal men to all comers who have the price, so long as they are able to stand up against its narcotic influence.

If the people are to be permitted to use poison let it be done in the name of medical science, under medical supervision; let all poisons be treated alike,

and not in the name of business as a means of resulting physical, mental and moral decrepitude and inefficiency.

In its last analysis this is the real basis of the prohibition movement.

SAMUEL WILSON.

Would Eliminate
Bars and Treating

Two physicians join in signing the following opinion on the best solution of the liquor problem. After a discussion of the effects of alcohol on the human body, they conclude with a verdict for temperance rather than for prohibition.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: There is evidently a difference of opinion concerning alcoholic beverages and their relation to health and happiness. The term "liquor" used in the proposed constitutional amendment likewise permits of a difference in interpretation, and, as commonly and scientifically used, does not designate wines, beers, ales and other mild alcoholic fluids.

Consider physiological facts relative to this subject. In times of stress, with fear, anxiety, excessive work, physical or mental, especially during strain and in conditions of fatigue, the suprarenal glands pour a secretion called epinephrin into the circulation. This secretion constricts the blood vessels, forcing the blood out of the abdominal viscera and toward the heart, lungs, brain and nervous system. These temporarily become more active and efficient. With rest or sleep the reverse occurs, the blood vessels relax and recuperation and repair result.

Physiology teaches that (1) alcohol is not a stimulant, but a circulatory depressant, a substance that decreases the restraint and efficiency of the higher cerebral functions, but it is only at intervals that such efficiency is required. Ordinarily, the brain action should approach automatism.

(2) There is a considerable period in each twenty-four hours when the brain should be at partial or complete rest. Alcohol in moderation causes the same relaxation as rest and sleep. It acts upon the sympathetic nervous system, causing the inhibition of stimuli which often continue to act after the necessity for them has ended. Rest and sleep are frequently impossible when required, and if resorted to demand the elimination of mental and physical activity.

Alcohol taken insufficiently diluted is another matter, and may create an abnormal desire, due to the fact that taken concentrated it can give rise to a catarrhal irritation of the gastric, intestinal tract and the absorption of toxins irritating to the sympathetic nervous system.

The use of alcohol should be restricted to fluids containing small percentages, and if not taken upon an empty stomach a habit will never be created. The following measures will eliminate the so-called liquor traffic and its consequences:

1. The elimination of all bars and the installation of tables and chairs.
2. The elimination of treating.
3. The formation of clubs to replace saloons, whose officers are paid salaries, not percentages on profits.

If the same effects were expended upon temperance as upon prohibition the powerful political lobbies of the organized interests and of the fanatical reformers could not prevent the normal and valued use of alcoholic beverages in moderation.

WATERS F. BURROWS, M. D.
ELLIOTT C. BURROWS, M. D.

Some Remarks on
Doctors and Drink

"The beer is according to the advertisement, was only a few years ago prescribed by doctors for patients in poor condition, writes W. H. P., who further inquires why we should believe doctors now who tell us that beer has no food value."

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Only a few years since, when patients, especially women, were in poor condition, the doctor almost invariably prescribed beer or ale, because of its food value or stimulating qualities, to build them up. And many thousands of people acquired the drink habit, and the bottled-beer trade prospered accordingly. Now we are told, again by doctors, that beer has no food value and is a narcotic, not a stimulant. Of what value, therefore, is the opinion of doctors upon this question, and why quote them?
W. H. P.

A Word for Mr. Lanyon,
Of Chicago

Discussing the Kaiser's glee when vodka was banished in Russia, Robert H. Lanyon, in a letter printed April 24, wrote: "I can imagine the grin of satisfaction which will pervade his countenance whenever he hears that the United States has committed itself to an equally foolish policy." Lee de Forest replies as follows:

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Among all the letters bearing on the war which The Tribune has printed I doubt if any has cast a greater slur or carried a meaner insult to our American troops abroad than that signed Robert H. Lanyon.

Anti-prohibition arguments run far and wild in seeking new "reasons" why foodstuffs and labor should be wasted during this war; but seldom has one gone so far toward disloyalty or so besmirched the intelligence and morale of our troops as to infer that if those on the firing line are denied their "vodka" they will forthwith, like the ignorant and half-starved Russians, desert and fraternize with the Germans, who can give them booze!

Were such ravings less insulting to the brave men who are sacrificing their all to save Tribune letter writers from the Hun they would be merely humorous. Equal in historic truth is Mr. Lanyon's other statement that Russians banished their Czar because he had banished vodka.

Among various relics of ignorance and barbarism whose extinction will be hastened by this war are such monstrosities as autocrats and alcoholic poisons.

LEE DE FOREST.

Who Is Fit

To Pass on Alcohol?

Surely the following men are competent, comes the reply to Dr. Allan McLane Hamilton from the recording secretary of the Scientific Temperance Federation of Boston.

If Dr. Allan McLane Hamilton's de-

surgeon to the Massachusetts Homoeopathic Hospital.

Dr. Winfield Scott Hall, professor of physiology, Northwestern University, Chicago.

Still more recently over 600 physicians of Massachusetts signed a petition asking the state Legislature to ratify the national constitutional prohibition amendment. Among these and speaking for them before the legislative committee was the widely known and honored Dr. J. J. Putnam, specialist and former lecturer on neurology at Harvard Medical School and visiting physician to the Massachusetts General Hospital.

EMMA L. TRANSEAU,
Secretary Scientific Temperance Federation.

Wages and Education

Blamed for Intemperance

Remove the causes of drunkenness, which is a disease like kleptomania, writes Eli Appelbaum, because prohibition can no more make a drunkard sober than jail can make a thief honest. The reply is obvious: A prisoner cannot at least continue his acts of dishonesty in jail.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I am opposed to prohibition for the same reason that I am opposed to any attempt on the part of duty constituted authority to prevent a man from exhibiting in public the symptoms of an external disease.

Drunkenness is one of the many diseases which afflict society to-day. Prohibition will hide the unpleasant effects of this disease, but can not and will not remove the cause. One must go outside a brewery or saloon to find the real causes of man's intemperate habits. The causes of drunkenness are infinitely greater than the brewery or the saloon, greater even than the owners or patrons of these institutions.

The causes of intemperance are:

1. Lack of adequate educational training, due to the economic necessity of curtailing the schooling of the child.
2. An insufficient wage for the maintenance of a decent standard of living and the preservation of one's self-respect.
3. Exhausting, long hours of monotonous labor, which compel a man to seek solace and relaxation in the artificial stimulating effects of alcoholic beverages.

Although matrimonial difficulties, business reverses and mental degeneracy may be classified as contributory causes of drunkenness, they are but part of the major causes enumerated above and merit no separate consideration.

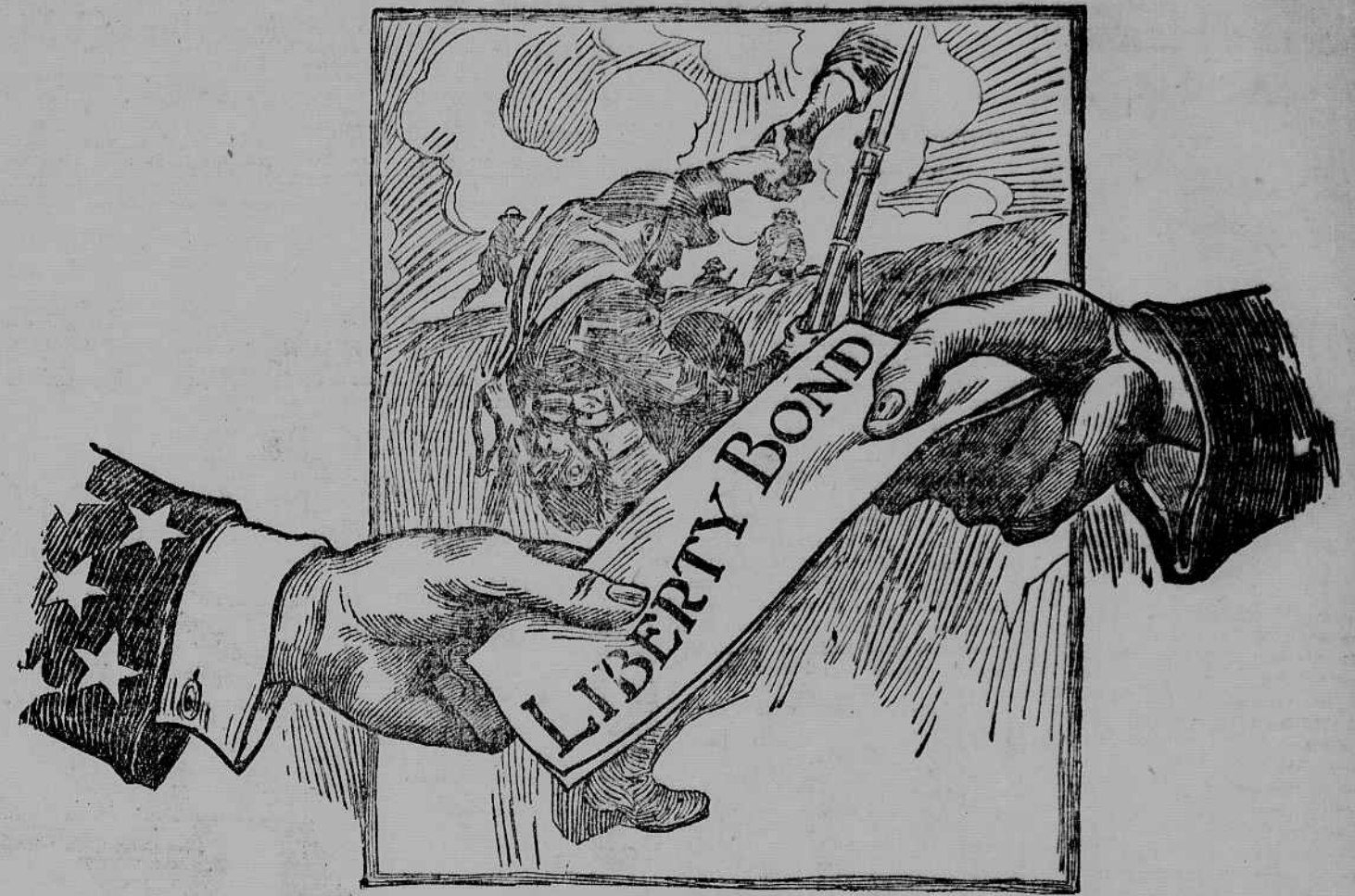
In brief, poverty of the purse, body or mind is largely responsible for the extensive use of alcoholic beverages.

If prohibition can successfully remove the basic causes it will make a contribution of inestimable value toward the emancipation of the human race. But prohibition will no more keep a man sober than jail will make a thief honest.

ELI APPELBAUM.

HILAIRE BELLOC

An exclusive cabled war report from the most famous of all military critics every week in the Sunday Tribune



Let Him Know That We DID Lend Him a Hand

He Must Know that we have paid as well as prayed.

He Must Know that our devotion was backed by our dollars.

He Must Know that we have saved to serve him who is serving to save us.

Let us make him feel that three thousand miles of ocean separating him from home is no barrier to our hope, no hindrance to our help.

He is our boy—your boy—my boy; fighting our fight—risking his all. What we lend—though it be all we have—is not to be compared with his offering.

VICTORY will be ours. How big a part will be yours? Make your answer today

Sacrifice—save—borrow—invest in all the Liberty Bonds you can. It's the only way you can show that boy fighting "over there" your willingness to

LEND HIM A HAND



LIBERTY LOAN COMMITTEE
Second Federal Reserve District
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY

This appeal is endorsed by the following
CASUALTY INSURANCE MANAGERS AND AGENTS OF NEW YORK CITY
who have contributed this space to help win the war.

BALLARD & GREENE, INC., MGRS.
Automobile Dept., Agricultural Insurance Co.

J. N. S. BREWSTER & CO., INC., EASTERN AGTS.
Continental Casualty Company.

E. E. CLAPP & CO., MGRS.
Fidelity & Casualty Company.

DWIGHT & HILLES, RES. MGRS.
Employers Liability Assurance Corp., Ltd.

JACKSON-SMITH AGENCY, INC., GEN'L AGTS.
Preferred Accident Insurance Company.

LOWNDES & DUNAHUE, INC., MGRS.
Georgia Casualty Company.